

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1 17. (currently amended) A method for managing content caches distributed on a network,
2 comprising the steps of:
3 in response to a first request, via a first network access provider, for particular content
4 wherein the particular content is served from a first server cache at a first
5 location on the network, creating at the first server a first activity record
6 corresponding to the first request;
7 in response to a second request, via a second network access provider, for the
8 particular content wherein the particular content is served from a second
9 server cache at a second location on the network that is a different location
10 from the first location, creating at the second server a second activity record
11 corresponding to the second request;
12 receiving from the first server, at a gateway to the first network access provider
13 network, a first set of activity records that contain statistics about requests for
14 content that resides in caches at a plurality of locations wherein the first set of
15 activity records includes the first activity record;
16 receiving from the second server, at a gateway to the second network access provider
17 network, a second set of activity records that contain statistics about requests
18 for content that resides in caches at a plurality of locations, wherein the second
19 set of activity records includes the second activity record;
20 forwarding the set of activity records to a cooperative gateway server managed by a
21 cooperative of network service providers, wherein the cooperative of network
22 service providers comprises (a) the first and second access providers, (b)
23 distribution network owners associated with the first and second servers, and
24 (c) content hosting providers associated with content publishers;
25 the cooperative gateway server collating the [[the]] set of activity records based on
26 which content publisher provided the content associated with each respective

27 activity record;
 28 forwarding collated activity records to respective content hosting providers associated
 29 with respective content publishers; and
 30 providing, to each of a plurality of content publishers whose content is distributed in
 31 various caches on the network, statistics based on activity records and the
 32 corresponding requests for content provided by the content publisher so that
 33 the plurality of content publishers can monitor the overall number of accesses
 34 to their respective content regardless of the content cache location.

1 18. (previously presented) The method of claim 17, further comprising, prior to the step
 2 of providing statistics to each content publisher, the step of:
 3 creating an activity log comprising statistics corresponding only to content provided
 4 by a specific content publisher of the plurality of content publishers.

1 19. (previously canceled)

1 20. (previously canceled)

1 21. (previously presented) The method of claim 17 further comprising the step of:
 2 aggregating, at the gateway to the first network access provider network, activity
 3 records from a plurality of edge servers.

1 22. (previously presented) The method of claim 17 wherein the step of receiving the first
 2 set of activity records comprises receiving activity records originating at one or more
 3 edge servers.

1 23. (previously canceled)

1 24. (previously canceled)

1 25. (previously presented) The method of claim 17 wherein the first set of activity records
 2 includes activity records that are related to requests for content provided by two or
 3 more content publishers the method further comprising the step of:
 4 forwarding the first set of activity records to a trusted third party wherein the third
 5 party aggregates the activity records included in the first set based on which
 6 content publisher provided the content associated with each of the activity

7 records; and
8 wherein the step of providing statistics is performed by the third party by transmitting
9 statistics associated with content provided by a first content publisher to a
10 gateway at one or more hosting providers associated with the first content
11 publisher.

1 26. (previously canceled)

1 27. (previously presented) The method of claim 17 wherein at least one member of the
2 cooperative is from a group consisting of a network owner and a telecommunications
3 carrier.

1 28. (previously presented) The method of claim 17, further comprising the steps of:
2 receiving, by a trusted third party, revenue for network services provided by members
3 of the cooperative; and
4 distributing the revenue to members of the cooperative based on member contribution
5 to the network services provided.

1 29. (previously presented) The method of claim 28 wherein the step of distributing the
2 revenue to members of the cooperative is based on the quality of performance of the
3 member contribution to the network services provided.

1 30. (previously presented) The method of claim 17, further comprising the steps of:
2 receiving, by the cooperative, revenue for network services provided by members of
3 the cooperative;
4 distributing the revenue to members of the cooperative based on member contribution
5 to the network services provided.

1 31. (previously presented) The method of claim 30 wherein the step of distributing the
2 revenue to members of the cooperative is based on the quality of performance of the
3 member contribution to the network services provided.

1 32. (previously canceled) .

1 33. (previously presented) The method of claim 17 wherein the step of providing

2 statistics to content publishers includes providing, in response to a request from a
3 particular content publisher, a particular activity log that corresponds to the particular
4 content publisher.

1 34-38 (previously canceled)

1 39-41. (previously canceled)

1 42-47 (previously canceled)

1 48. (currently amended) Computer-readable media bearing one or more sequences of
2 instructions for monitoring requests for content cached distributively on a network,
3 wherein execution of the one or more sequences of instructions by one or more
4 processors causes the one or more processors to perform the steps of:
5 in response to a first request, via a first network access provider, for particular content
6 wherein the particular content is served from a first server cache at a first
7 location on the network, creating at the first server a first activity record
8 corresponding to the first request;
9 in response to a second request, via a second network access provider, for the
10 particular content wherein the particular content is served from a second
11 server cache at a second location on the network that is a different location
12 from the first location, creating at the second server a second activity record
13 corresponding to the second request;
14 receiving from the first server, at a gateway to the first network access provider
15 network, a first set of activity records that contain statistics about requests for
16 content that resides in caches at a plurality of locations wherein the first set of
17 activity records includes the first activity record;
18 receiving from the second server, at a gateway to the second network access provider
19 network, a second set of activity records that contain statistics about requests
20 for content that resides in caches at a plurality of locations, wherein the second
21 set of activity records includes the second activity record;
22 forwarding the set of activity records to a cooperative gateway server managed by a
23 cooperative of network service providers, wherein the cooperative of network
24 service providers comprises (a) the first and second access providers, (b)

25 distribution network owners associated with the first and second servers, and
 26 (c) content hosting providers associated with content publishers;
 27 the cooperative gateway server collating the [[the]] set of activity records based on
 28 which content publisher provided the content associated with each respective
 29 activity record;
 30 forwarding collated activity records to respective content hosting providers associated
 31 with respective content publishers; and
 32 providing, to each of a plurality of content publishers whose content is distributed in
 33 various caches on the network, statistics based on activity records and the
 34 corresponding requests for content provided by the content publisher so that
 35 the plurality of content publishers can monitor the overall number of accesses
 36 to their respective content regardless of the content cache location.

1 49. (previously presented) The computer-readable media of claim 48, wherein execution
 2 of the one or more sequences of instructions by one or more processors causes the one
 3 or more processors to perform, prior to the step of providing statistics to each content
 4 publisher, the step of:
 5 creating an activity log comprising statistics corresponding only to content provided
 6 by a specific content publisher of the plurality of content publishers.

1 50-55 (previously canceled)

2 56. (previously presented) A method for improving communication among a plurality of
 3 parties providing distribution services, over a network, for content that is cached at a
 4 plurality of locations, comprising:
 5 a cooperative organization allowing a content publisher to monitor access to content
 6 provided by the content publisher, wherein the content resides in distributed
 7 caches not controlled by the content publisher, by
 8 providing, via a cooperative gateway server managed by the cooperative
 9 organization, to each content publisher of a plurality of content
 10 publishers, respective activity records having information about each
 11 respective request for access to the cached content provided by that
 12 content publisher, wherein the information is collected and aggregated at

13 the cooperative gateway server according to which content publisher
14 provided the content associated with the information;
15 wherein the information is received at respective gateways to respective network
16 access provider networks;
17 wherein the information is received at said respective gateways from
18 corresponding servers that serve the content from different locations on
19 the network; and
20 wherein members of the cooperative organization include (a) a telecommunications
21 carrier, (b) a distribution network owner that caches content at locations
22 distributed across the network for serving to requestors, and (c) a hosting
23 provider that hosts content for one or more of the plurality of content publishers.

1 57. (previously presented) The method of Claim 17, comprising:
2 extracting from the activity records demographic information about those who request
3 the content.

1 58. (previously presented) The method of Claim 17, comprising:
2 extracting from the activity records geographic information about those who request
3 the content.